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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Viet Minh Purchases of Medical Supplies,
Southwestern Kwangsi

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

The price of western* drugs and medical supplies in Nanning (10E-18, 22-48), Lungchou (106-56, 22-22), Paize (108-03, 22-06), and Chinghsi (106-25, 23-09), rose suddenly during the latter part of August 1950. Drug dealers in these cities attributed the price rise to large purchases made by the Ho Chi Minh Government. They reported that all their stocks of certain medicines, particularly aspirin and quinine, had been sold. According to the drugists, many Viet Minh troops were suffering from malaria, and about 600 men had died recently because of a quinine shortage.

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Comment. "Western" drugs are non-Chinese medicines.

This document is hereby regraded to
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letter of 16 October 1978 from
Director of Central Intelligence to
Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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